

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Atty. Docket No: 38331-0003

In re patent application of

Akira TSUBOKURA et al

Confirmation No.:

Serial No.: To be Assigned

Group Art Unit: Unassigned

Filed: February 11, 2002

Examiner: Unassigned

For: PROCESS OF PRODUCING CAROTENOID PIGMENTS

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56 and 37 CFR §1.97**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08A is a listing of documents known to applicants in order to comply with applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §1.97. A copy of each of the listed documents are being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.97-1.99.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or is considered to be material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* prior art reference against the claims of the present application.

RELEVANCE

The foregoing documents came to the Applicants attention during a search of the corresponding international application. A copy of the International Search Report setting forth the portion of each reference considered relevant by the examiner is attached.

STATEMENT

The undersigned hereby states in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(2) that no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56© more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Applicants respectfully request that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08A be returned in accordance with M.P.E.P. §609.

Respectfully submitted,

By

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Date: February 11, 2002

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	1	of	2
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Complete if Known

Application Number	Not yet assigned
Filing Date	February 11, 2002
First Named Inventor	Akira TSUBOKURA et al.
Group Art Unit	Unassigned
Examiner Name	Unassigned
Attorney Docket Number	38331-0003

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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Sheet 2 of 2

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Group Art Unit	Unassigned
Examiner Name	Unassigned
Attorney Docket Number	38331-0003

OTHER PRIOR ART -- NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials *	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
	A05	ANTON HARTMANN et al., "Effect of Carotenoid Overproduction on Oxygen Tolerance of Nitrogen Fixation in Azospirillum brasilense Sp7", Journal of General Microbiology, 1988, pp. 2449-2455, Vol. 134	

Examiner
Signature

Date
Considered

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